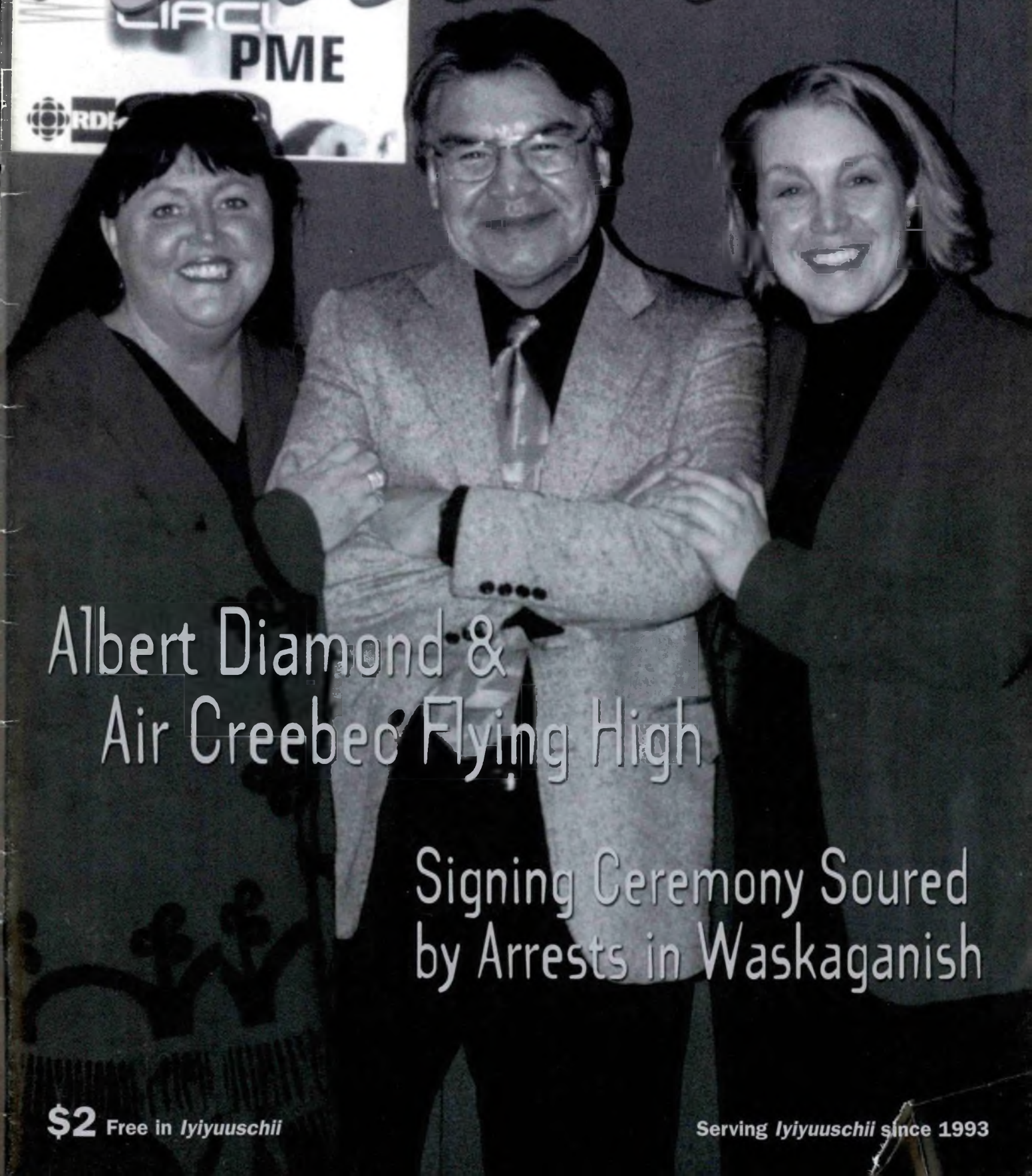


# Nation

Volume 9, No. 7 • February 22, 2002

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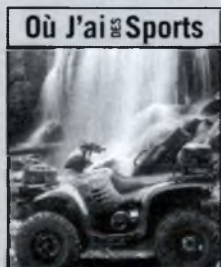
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## TIME TO HEAL OUR COMMUNITIES

It feels like forever since I wrote an editorial. Or should I say since I felt like writing an editorial?

There have been great events happening in Eeyou Istchee. A decision has been made. What the consequences of that decision will be or whether it will even be honoured is something that we will see in the future.

Often because of the importance of the decision I held back even though my heart was with the Rupert River. But there is still one thing that must be addressed and that is the rift within our communities. Anyone who expressed concerns over this were labeled as crackpots or worse. Even the media came under attack because we did our job. Part of that job is to give a voice to the voiceless. When the yes-to-the-deal side had so many community tours and resources and the other side was denied them, then it is our job to even the scales as best we can. Yet I heard labels such as the negative ones given to the no side. Both sides had valid reasons for their decisions to go one way or another. That is the simple truth but even today I am hearing about winners and losers and such.

It is in my opinion time for our leaders to begin mending fences and bringing the Cree Nation together again. Such rifts will only benefit those who have always used the divide and conquer methodology of colonialism.

A true leader would do this yet I have seen no signs of this. Take the case of

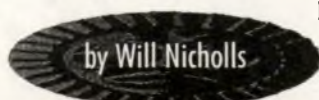
Henry Diamond. I have heard it said that he is somewhat of a loner. He was divorced some years back. He was put up to it by the "negative ones." All things designed to diminish his worth as a human being and a Cree. I have talked to Henry and he did what he did on his own because he felt he had to. No one put him up to it and I think what he did, especially in the face of the reaction, took great inner strength.

There was a time when Crees valued that inner strength. I know we did when we were fighting Great Whale. Then people who did such things were heroes. I guess it depends on what side of the fence you were on. He intelligently and certainly achieved what any environmental activist could have wanted with the press response he got.

I guess what I am trying to say here is that everyone is entitled to their opinion and we should respect them for it. I respected people on the yes side but if a lack of respect on both sides continues then the result will just be communities that are torn apart internally.

Did not someone say that I may not agree with you but I will defend until death your right to say it? Crees have always been willing to disagree but they have in the past always got along with each other in spite of differences.

So I say to our leaders that it is time for you to address this problem and start leading us into that golden future that was promised.



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First people's Business Association CEO Joanne Robertson, Air Creebec's President Albert Diamond and Circuit PME host Lea Pascal  
 Photographer: Will Nicholls  
 Cover Design: Mona Laviolette



## TAXI DRIVER SURVIVAL TIPS

In my long list of occupational hazards, driving a taxi has to be somewhere near the top level dangerous jobs, right next to nuclear bomb testers, action-hero stunt actors, Preparation H guinea pigs and deep-cover journalist operatives in Afghanistan. Many of these jobs come with some form of insurance and pension security, but being the taxi driver has to be one of the more colourful jobs I've happened to work at. Most taxi drivers have many horror stories of the things they had to do to get their job done. So far, I haven't had to deliver any babies or resuscitate anyone from cardiac arrest, but I've had my share of scary stories in this business, even though I've been working for only four days now.

As with any other job, a set of critical skills and etiquette are necessary and some self-defence techniques and a degree in psychiatry are definite assets. Diplomacy is a necessary virtue as by the time I'm finished with this job (in about three weeks), I should have enough skills to diffuse any hostile incident by just smiling and saying, "Where to, sir or Madame?"

Some skills are necessary such as being able to pick out the ones who can afford your high-speed delivery techniques and those who are just joy

riders. Another tip is to refuse every tip offered then immediately say, "Thank you," and pocket the 20 dollars before they change their mind. Sometimes storytelling helps to soothe the irate passenger by talking about the perils of riding the competition and how they could be left out in the cold too long.

I have to admit that I like to drive around; it gives me some sense of freedom and the wind which could have blown through my hair (if I had some) when I open the window and feel the minus 60 degree wind waft through my heavily mittened hand. Ahhh, that's the life, when you manage to take a break from avoiding every stop sign en route or when a client says, "You're already here? Wow!"

But certain rules are forever written in stone. Only accept cold, hard cash and never say yes to any other offers. Always smile when you face your client. And never, ever ask any personal questions like, "Is that your wife (or husband)?" or, "Didn't I just drop you off over there last night?" or, "Have a bad hair day?"

Until the bicycle comes back as the way to get around, taxis will always be needed. Maybe one day, the perfect client will come around, the generous tipper who is completely sober and honest. But until that day comes, it's war out there. Ten-four, good buddy, I'm off for a ride.

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## ARRESTS OVERSHADOW SIGNING

Premier Bernard Landry called it "the peace of the brave," but the signing of the Agreement between the Crees and Quebec in Waskaganish Feb. 7 was marred by scuffles and two vigorous arrests by police from six Eeyou Istchee communities who erected a wall of security around the ceremony.

The first to be arrested was former Waskaganish Chief Henry Diamond, who approached the head table and accused both Quebec Premier Bernard Landry and Cree Grand Chief Ted Moses of lying to the Cree people.

Police say Diamond was arrested on charges of disturbing the peace and resisting arrest. He was released later that day.

Police would only say he caused a disturbance at the front and had to be escorted out. During the escort Diamond allegedly told police officers he was going to resist.

"I was surprised at what happened," Diamond told the Nation. "I didn't threaten anybody." Diamond said he only wanted to ask some questions, but, "They (police) grabbed me and started pushing me around. I couldn't just let that happen. I went there to talk about some of the things that the people weren't told."

It took a few officers to take him out of the building. Diamond suffered rug burns to the forehead when he was thrown to the floor during his arrest.

Diamond, an elderly man, was bleeding from the head when he was allowed back on his feet and escorted to the jail.

Diamond says that in other parts of Canada, First Nations worry that the Crees have signed away their rights. And he isn't repentant about his protest.

When asked if he was a part of a group or if this was a planned action Diamond said that no one asked him to do what he did or used him in any way. "I'm glad I did what I did," said Diamond, "I didn't want to disrespect the people, but I wasn't allowed to talk."

The second person to be arrested was Chisasibi Band Councillor Larry House. Police say he was trying to access an area reserved for certain personnel. "When he pushed an officer, that's when we arrested him," said the Waskaganish police. He was arrested under local Waskaganish mischief by-laws. Police have charged him with impeding pedestrian traffic, which carries a fine of \$25.

"All I was doing was trying to get into the press conference," House said. "I didn't know these things were that tightly controlled."

House says the police didn't even seem to know what they were going to charge him with at first, but came up with that charge after a lot of thinking. When asked

about how he felt about his arrest, House said, "In a way I didn't mind, I felt it was symbolic about how things were being done in Eeyou Istchee." House said that he would be looking at his legal options with a lawyer. He said police nearly popped his shoulder out while handcuffing his hands behind his back.

Waskaganish police wouldn't initially confirm they had arrested anyone in conjunction with the signing ceremony.

The high levels of security have many people looking over their shoulders. Nation reporter Lindy Moar says he received a phone call from Grand Council Executive Director Bill Namagoose before the signing ceremony. Moar said Namagoose wanted to know about rumours a protest was planned for the ceremony, and quotes Namagoose as saying that Premier Landry wouldn't sign if there was a protest.

Moar said he felt he was being set up and even phoned back Namagoose to ask



Somewhere in the middle is Henry Diamond

him about the call. Namagoose replied that he was just worried.

During the signing Moar said he was shadowed by the police wherever he went. "Police were never more than ten feet from me all the time, even when I went for a cigarette," said Moar. "I started feeling paranoid."

Johnny Trapper, Regional Police Coordinator, said that in addition to local officers, police came from Wemindji, Chisasibi, Eastmain, Nemaska and Waswanipi. Trapper said that there wasn't a list of people to watch out for or any particular mandate given to the police before the signing. "As a police officer you prepare for events like this," he said. "Making arrests aren't some sort of a highlight for us. We are just there to provide a service for the community."

Will Nicholls



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April 2, 2002\*

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To apply or to find out more about this program, please contact your nearest Human Resources Development Canada office or call 1 800 935-5555.

Internet: [www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca](http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca)

\* Please note that the application deadline for the Northwest Territories and Nunavut is April 9, 2002.



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## Respect the Police

Editor!

First of all, I'd like to say "Watchyia" to everyone. This is the first time I have ever felt compelled enough to write in response to any article in "The Nation", and actually send it in.

I was very disappointed with your so-called editorial, in Rez Notes...Volume 9, No. 9 January 25, 2002. More specifically, the part in which you make reference to the Chisasibi Police Force. It seems your facts have been greatly exaggerated, probably for the benefit of the your so-called "victim". If some people didn't buy, sell, or use drugs illegally, then obviously there would be no use for "rambo tactics", as you claim to have been used by the Chisasibi Police Force, now would there! And just maybe there actually would be world peace!

Or just maybe these measures are cleaning up too close to home?? But then again, people do have choices in life and with those choices come consequences. So it's up to each individual to make the best choices they can make.

As for your "several" Mohawks, I personally know of only one Mohawk, who was working here in Chisasibi. A very professional person, I might add. So before you go speaking or writing your little articles in such a negative manner, especially about people who are at least making attempts to "clean-up" the town, as you put it, it would be nice to see you do more research on both sides of your story.

Lastly, I would like to commend the Chisasibi Police Force for their efforts and say that I fully support them.

To them, I say "Keep up the good work!" and "Thank you!".

A proud Mom,  
Debbie House  
Chisasibi

P.S. I've always enjoyed reading your "Rez Notes" before you started showing your disrespect for these officers of the law the Chisasibi Police Force!



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# EYYOU ISTCHEE CONSORTIUM

There is a new player in the expanding world of Cree organizations. The Eeyou Istchee Consortium has been formed in the wake of the new agreement between the Cree and the government of Quebec. The Consortium is designed to orchestrate Cree resources to help meet the expected growing demand for employment in the new, rapidly changing economic environment in the James Bay region.

Conceived at a meeting in Val d'Or, organized by Billy Diamond early last December, the Consortium was formed as a non-profit entity with a mandate to ensure that job contracts can be accessed by the Cree labour force and that those contracts will be distributed fairly. The Consortium seeks to network with all Cree businesses and services in an understanding of mutual cooperation for the economic benefit of all.

The Eeyou Istchee Consortium, which will be based in Nemaska, has appointed one representative from each of the nine communities to act on its board. The board members bring with them a variety of backgrounds and experience including small business, economic development, politics, and youth.

The nine community representatives are: Davey Bobbish, Chisasibi; Willy Gilpin Jr., Eastmain; Don Macleod, Mistissini; Thomas Jolly, Nemaska; Nick Paradisis, Ouje-Bougoumou; Jack Diamond, Waskaganish; Marlene Kitchen, Waswanipi; Reggie Mark, Wemindji; Gary Petagumskum,

Whapmagoostui.

Don Macleod has been appointed as President of the Interim Board, which will be either confirmed or revised once the official charter has been finalized. For the moment, this is a working group that will meet every week or two through conference calls.

The Consortium has also appointed an executive committee to oversee the management of its affairs. The executive committee members represent different regions, businesses and services. Committee members include Jack Blacksmith (regional economic etities), Steven Bearskin (construction), Albert Diamond (transport/services), Don Macleod (inland rep.), Kenneth Gilpin (coastal rep.), Tania Pash (treasurer/financial advisor), J.P. Murdoch (corporate secretary), Jimmy Macleod (small business/inland rep.) and James Blackned (small business/coastal rep.).

The hoped for contracts, foreseen in the immediate future, come on the heels of additional monies promised by Hydro-Quebec before the finalization of the AIP. The utility giant threw an additional \$865.5 million into the pot. According to Don Macleod, the money will be spread over a number of contracts to be awarded to develop the proposed Eastmain and Rupert River projects.

Hydro-Quebec has earmarked \$300 million for the first contract, the EM-1 project. An additional \$1.5 million has been set aside for training funds in order to ensure that the necessary skills are in place to be able to handle the enormous

projects. Work for Em-1 will include slashing and construction of 80 kilometers of road, construction of a camp to house 2000 workers at its peak as well as catering and other services.

The target start date for the project is sometime in April with initial construction to be completed by November. Short-term projections for job creation, based on Hydro-Quebec schedules, estimate some 21 Cree jobs in the first month, 42 in the second month, and up to 238 jobs at the peak of the contract.

The Rupert project, which will require extensive environmental impact studies to be conducted before its initiation, won't come in for another two to four years, but will require at least as much labour input as EM-1 if not more. The second project will involve contracts in excess of \$290 million. By 2003, Hydro-Quebec estimates that it will need to hire 365 workers for unskilled jobs. Skilled labour could mean even more opportunities for the Cree work force. The two projects could provide up to ten years of work, especially in construction. Once the projects are completed, additional work will be needed in areas such as road maintenance.

It is the responsibility of the Eeyou Istchee Consortium to ensure that Crees are up to the task of handling the contracts. Hydro-Quebec's offer of employment opportunities for Native workers will only be available if the Cree can demonstrate that they have the tools, skills and manpower to get the jobs done. The Consortium hopes to pool available resources in order to meet these new demands. An effort will also be made to encourage the youth to take advantage of the coming employment opportunities by using education to obtain the necessary skills.

By joining forces between different Cree enterprises, companies will be able to help each other in achieving higher levels of competency. The Consortium will evaluate which companies are best-suited to handle the various jobs. For instance, if one company has strengths in certain areas but lacks enough capital to bid for a contract, it might be pooled with another that has the money but lacks necessary materials. It is the hope of Don Macleod that wide partnerships can be formed in an effort to work together and "make sure that everyone gets a fair shake."

The Eeyou Istchee Consortium will act as a watchdog group to ensure that the Cree get their fair share of contracts and that those contracts are fairly distributed among the various businesses, services and communities. In a best case scenario, the aquisition of skills and experience will lead to future opportunities beyond those offered by Hydro, mining and forestry interests. "I hope (the Cree) will work together," said Don Macleod, "and understand that they are working for themselves in the future."

by Brian Zelknicker





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## What: The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament

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When: March 29 & 30, 2002

Where: Philemon Wright High School, Hull, Quebec.

### Additional Information:

- Registration fee \$300.00 per team
- Awards will depend on the number of teams registered
- Maximum of ten teams
- Minimum of three (3) females per team
- Round robin format
- Individual awards



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Thank you!

Alisson Bobbish & Beverly Cox



# Looking for Stringers!!!!

**What is a stringer you ask? A stringer is a freelance writer. Here at the Nation we are looking for people to cover local events in the communities when we can't make it there. If you are interested:**  
**Call-in or e-mail us and talk to the Nation.**

**Phone 1-514-272-3077 and ask for Will.**

**Email: [nation@beesum.ca](mailto:nation@beesum.ca)**

## Let us know:

**Is there a powwow, gathering, festival, tournament or other community event that you want people to know about?**

**Is there something that the company or organization that you work for is doing that should be noticed by others in Native America?**

**Is there someone in your community such as an Elder or other role model that you think deserves to be recognized?**

**What are your politicians up to?**

**Is there something that is hurting Native people and needs to be brought to light so that it can be put to an end?**

**What issues (local, national, and international) do you think aren't getting the press they deserve?**

**DO you have a story that would make people laugh?**

**Call *the Nation* at  
 514-272-3077  
 Ask for Will,  
 or Brian Z.**

**\*\*Confidentiality assured\*\***

*Letters Policy: All letters must be received one week previous to printing of the Nation to be considered for publication. The Nation reserves the right to edit, modify or reject letters. Letters should be addressed to the Editor in Chief. Mailing address can be found on Page 4 near the bottom of the masthead.*

## Foster Home Sought

Jane is a happy, cuddly nine months old, who is thriving well and seems to love being the center of attention. She plays well with her toys, eats and sleeps through the night.

Jane's parents are not able to care for her, thus, she needs a long-term foster family who will be open to adopting her if she becomes adoptable. In order to meet her needs, an Aboriginal family of Algonquin or Cree heritage would be ideal.

For more information about Jane, please call Batshaw Homes for Children at (514) 932-7161, local 473 or drop in Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 6 Weredale Park in Westmount.

## Cree Space Cadets, Take Note

According to a recent report in the London Daily Telegraph, space tourists are now able to purchase tickets to travel on a NASA-approved rocket to the international space station, but liars, drunks and delinquents need not apply.

NASA has reluctantly agreed to allowing more amateur astronauts make the voyage into space after originally being against the idea of the first space tourist going into orbit. NASA's new attitude comes with a list of requirements to become eligible for a space visa.

The published guidelines make it clear that applicants can be denied the visa if they are found to be criminal, dishonest, delinquent, or infamous. Potential space cadets will also be disallowed if they are found to have displayed "notoriously disgraceful conduct," or if they have made intentional false statements or committed fraud.

Applicants, who must be able to read and speak English, can also be denied for alcohol and drug abuse. Additional criteria for visitors to the orbiting outpost include medical exams, behavioural assessments, and training sessions in Houston and Moscow.

Mark Shuttleworth, a South African business tycoon, is next in line as a space tourist. The second ever paying customer for a trip to the heavens has apparently shelled out \$19 million U.S. to fly to the station on a Russian rocket in April.





# Air Creebec, A Cree Choice



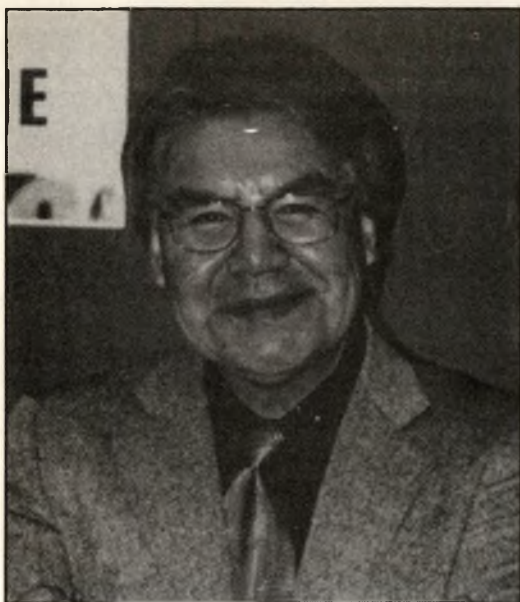
Air Creebec's President Albert Diamond was recently featured on RDI's *Circuit PME*, a French-language television show about small business. Diamond presented Air Creebec quite well to the French speaking population. It was something that Diamond said he was glad to do.

**The Nation:** You were on *Circuit PME*. How did it feel?  
**Albert Diamond:** Yes, *Circuit PME* features small to medium businesses. They target those types of companies. First of all we've been trying to get programs like that because we can really target some of the non-Native customers we have. This is true for Val d'Or, Amos, Chibougamau and Roberval. When you see the traffic from those communities rise we don't have to increase rates further north. So you offset the rates because you are making money on the southern parts of your route. Four years ago most of our revenues were in Ontario and most of those travelers were non-Natives. We looked at Quebec and most of the revenues there came from Cree sources. So we said we should be doing what we are doing in Ontario. We had to sit down and really look at that. How do we do that? If you remember when we had a route out of Rouyn Noranda we worked and talked with the Chamber of Commerce and the town council. We did the same thing with Amos and Val d'Or. The next thing you knew these guys started flying with

us. The funny thing about it is the businessmen that fly with us used to have the same complaints we did. That all the money went to the big companies down south. They told us that we were from the north and from our région so we'll support you. That's a result of getting involved with the Chambers of Commerce.

**Circuit PME says it wanted to demystify Native businesses. When you watched the segment they did on you and Air Creebec do you think they achieved that?**  
 Yeah, I was hoping they would show Native people manage their businesses a little differently. Their objectives are different. For instance when they showed that segment when the little girl had to travel. A lot of people don't understand there are Crees who have to spend a lot of time in hospitals in the south and this costs a lot of money. Parents and friends can't be there with them. The Board of Directors, who are all Cree at Air Creebec, has told me that if we can help them out for time to time, we'll allow you to do it. So we do and it's the same thing with fundraising that goes on in the Cree communities. They ask for money and we say no, we aren't going to give you money. We will give you free tickets you can use as prizes. Almost everybody knows that now that this is our policy. They get these tickets and in some cases people raise \$2-5,000. The tickets cost them nothing and it's worthwhile.





**So you see Air Creebec as someone who helps out the communities?**

Yep, and that comes from an all Cree board of directors, who come from the communities. They see it. We don't say yes to everything. We can't but last year a report showed we gave about \$110,000 in free tickets. When you look at the money it has generated in fundraising it is about \$300,000. I think the Board and the management understand that we have to be good corporate citizens and we have to help out. We try to do that.

**Air Creebec has had problems in the past and seems to have gotten past that to a new, more profitable, era. What's next for Air Creebec?**

Well, the whole aviation industry changed after September. It affected us too but with Air Creebec we have people who support us. It's their company and that's what we try to tell them: You own us. I still get some people who tell me that the cost is too high to fly with us. I guess our next thing is to minimize any increases in fares and rates. I think we are doing that. In the past three years some of the airlines have increased their rates and fares three times more than we did. That comes from the fact we have Crees on the board making those decisions. We go to them at the start of our fiscal year in January and when we do the budget they set the increase at the minimum. Last year it was a 5 per cent in total while in the industry some of the increases were as high as 20 per cent. That's the thing about Crees owning their own airline. You can do things like that and I think it's good for the Crees. I don't disagree with the fact it costs a lot of money to fly. When you look at the amount of passengers we have if we were double that number we'd be able to offer lower and better fares. If fact,

even now the board is asking me if it's possible to have specials. I've said yes, we've had a number of years where we've showed a profit. We're looking at it. That's the next thing you can say we do is to have those special rates and fares.

As far as what we are doing in the future, with the Agreement that has been signed there is going to be work with Hydro-Quebec and certainly we will get a far share. I doubt we'll get everything but we will get extra work because of that project. We've certainly set ourselves up for it. We brought a charter aircraft in October and it's been busy. The Cree organizers have certainly supported us with that. We said if that sector continues to take off the way it has we might even have to get another one.

Charters and the contracts that go with charters are really good because we get paid a steady amount per month whereas scheduled flights go up and down depending on the traffic you have. Charters help you out a lot when you have the contracts. We are starting to get some contracts from the mines and some of the other

*Well, the whole aviation industry changed after September. It affected us too but with Air Creebec we have people who support us. It's their company and that's what we try to tell them: You own us.*

companies in the Cree territory. One of our best customers in this is Telebec. They charter us all the time.

As far as new routes are concerned I don't know if we can look at expanding unless some of the other airlines get into difficulties. You look at some of the airlines that serve the Lac St. Jean area, Quebec and the North Shore. I don't know what will happen to them if they get into financial trouble. We'll look at it and see if it is worthwhile to go there when and if it happens.

We have an agreement with Air Canada and Air Nova. It helps us and doesn't help us because it restricts what we can and can't do. It helps us in the sense that we have joint fares that are a savings for our passengers. If a





passenger wants to go from Waskaganish to Toronto they don't have to buy a ticket to Montreal and then another from Montreal to Toronto. He gets a reduced fare. That helps us but on the other hand we can't just go and put a route in wherever we want. They'll say wait we're doing it or Air Nova is doing it. Overall it helps us more than it harms us. We have regular meetings with them and they'll say that's sounds like a good idea, why don't you do it.

**So, you're saying Air Creebec's about customer satisfaction?**

That's what we have been concentrating on for the past three years. One of the things that is going to happen soon and we're hoping for the middle of March is being able to buy your ticket electronically online. We said everyone's doing it why shouldn't we be able to do it? We have some problems because some of our communities don't have internet access but I think we have to do that to remain competitive and stay in the game. It's the same thing with charter service; we've been concentrating on customer service. I had a good experience with the chiefs, the Grand Chief and the Grand Council over the last couple of months with all of the flying they have had to do. They were very happy with the service but we're still looking at what we can do better.

Do you want a really good meal on that flight? We'll arrange it for you. You want pizza and beer, we'll arrange it. I think that's going to happen with the numbers I'm seeing from that charter aircraft. Our

board of directors had said in 2002 we're not buying any more aircraft. The climate has changed though and we might have to in June to keep up with the demand and the activity that'll come up with the start of the HQ Eastmain project. We have to position ourselves because Hydro-Quebec wants to start as soon as possible. You have to look at the contractors and the companies who are going to be in there. We want that charter work. They're going to be bringing people in and out and while some of those guys will be traveling on HQ aircraft we think there will be a lot of charter work there.

Then there are the funds that the Crees will be getting to develop the communities. Anytime that happens you see an influx of people going into the communities. It can be engi-

neers, cost estimators, contractors and whatever. We notice it because these people travel by Air Creebec so we know we have to be ready for that. When you look at the activity that will happen over the next five years it could happen really soon but what we are trying to do is to have the aircraft ready for when it happens so we beat out the competitors.

In the past we've had to tell people we didn't have the aircraft because they were all flying. What we've learnt since we have had the charter aircraft is that we can say we have the plane right here and we can be there in an hour. When you can do that price becomes secondary. You can be there sooner than your competitor. Then there's price. We've done things like in one day when we had a charter for the Cree School Board and the Grand Council. We organized it so they saved money on the ferry charges, that's when no one's in the airplanes. They shared the ferry charges and it brings the price down. We're really monitoring it. The Board said that we should really look at who's flying and when. Right now it's the Cree organizations that really, really support us. After all it's their airline and these guys are doing it. Right now we're looking at ways we can save them a little bit of money like in the ferry charges. If this keeps up in June I might be going to the board and saying we might have to look at getting another aircraft. Not right away but towards the end of the year like in December.

We have to position ourselves for the peak of the project in 2005 so that means in 2003 to maximize the Cree and non-Cree contracts.



### It's a brighter future for Air Creebec?

Yes, weathering 2001 and watching all these other airlines go bankrupt we analyzed that and looked at how we survived. Some of the things we did right after that helped. When you look at it though some of the things we did in the past two years helped even more. I know we talked about getting a second Dash 8. We kept delaying it because the price was too high. When September 11 happened prices on aircraft went down like you wouldn't believe. We knew our revenues were going to go down and we might even have a loss but we told the board if we were going to buy we had to do it now because the price was so good. It might take us until next year to show it will make money for us. Those guys said let's do it. Some of the guys in the aviation business thought we were nuts buying a plane right now when all the traffic is going down. The thing though it is timing too. You say the prices went down and we put the Dash 8 in Ontario where the people were just waiting for it. They told us they would rather fly with the Dash 8. Part of it is luck and part of it is knowing your customers. The board asked if we had the money and I said yes, we had been putting aside money to buy. Now it looks terrific. You think about it. Some of the events outside of the territory will dictate what you do but even though we said it might take a while to show this is a good decision it didn't take that long. Right away the customer reaction was great. Before August the best price we could find for a Dash 8 was \$4.6 million. We brought ours for \$3 million. That's how much it dropped.

### That's over 25 per cent savings.

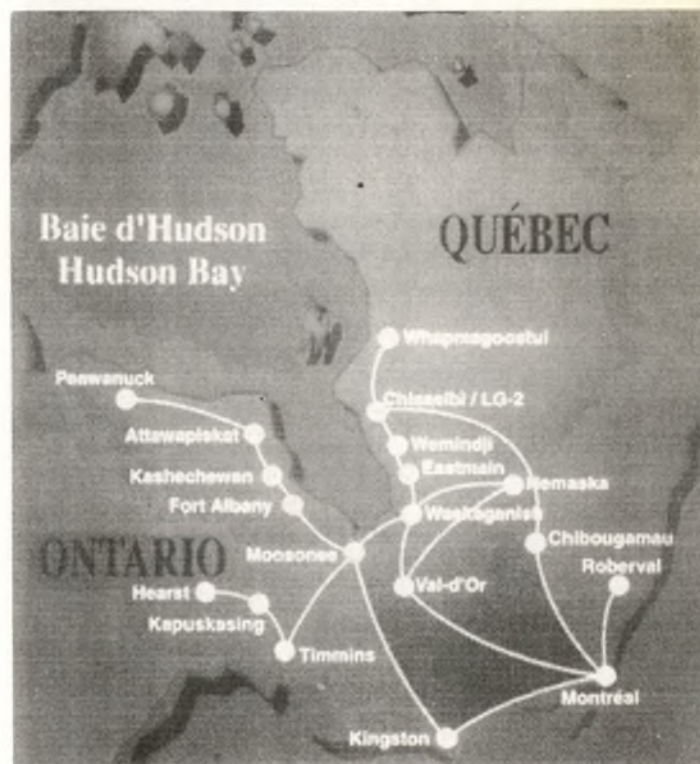
Exactly. We spent \$600,000 making modifications and changing the seats the price was so good. When you look at the airplane it's an eight-year-old airplane but with the modifications it looks new. It's a good aircraft. It's funny, sometimes you buy an aircraft that has been flying for a number of years, and it's better than a new one. It's like a car. If you buy a new one you sometimes get a lemon. Sometimes a used one fixed up will be the better deal in the long run. The end result though was that everyone was happy, the passengers and us. The other thing is now we can switch aircraft depending on the loads we have to carry. It makes us more flexible



and that makes a difference.

### What's the last thing you would like to say to your customers?

I realize there are still a lot of things that we could do to improve service. We're working on it. I really think that they stayed with us through the bad times and we remember that. We've made that decision to constantly improve our service and we can get people to where they are going safely and on time.





# In search of Whapmagoostui Spirit

by Danielle Valade



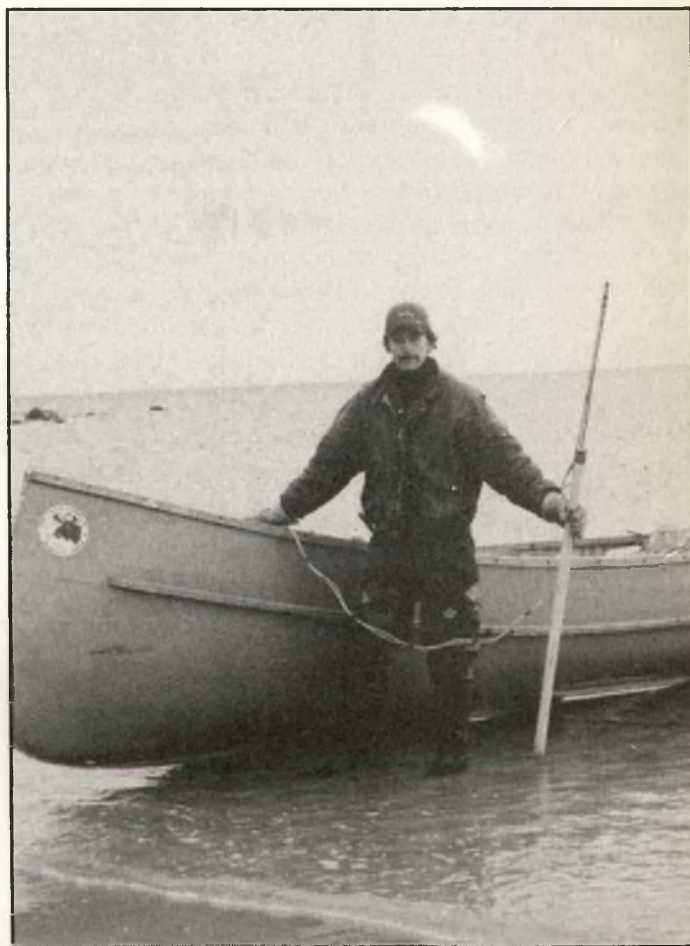
**To get to the Cree/Inuit communities of Whapmagoostui/Kuujuarapik without wings you must go off road from Radisson or Chisasibi.**

**Modern *courreur des bois* might traverse the 175 rugged kilometres of wilderness by ATV or snowmobile or hop on a cargo ship to the southeast curve of Hudson's Bay ... We flew.**

Nunavik territory, land once carved by glaciers where the Inukshuk have shown the way home or the way to food for three thousand years. Few travelers venture above the 55<sup>th</sup> parallel into the great silence of the boreal forests, mi-tundra mi-taiga, to the communities of Whapmagoostui/Kuujuarapik. Where terrain abounds with rivers and streams, conifers standing amidst a surreal lime-green moss floor or posing between colorful rock formations along the shores off the Hudson Bay. Twenty-five foot sand dunes edge large golden beaches where salty waves come crashing. There are no sunbathers on these stretches of fine sand. It is mid-October; the snow ought to have blanketed the earth by now. Instead our sojourn will be amidst temperature of 2° to 8°C, coated with winds, accentuated by light rain and gray skies. There's a tender, raw beauty to this place during gray days so we don't mind it. Unfortunately it robs us of the starry nights and the uttermost delight – the cold ballet of the aurora borealis. The absence of snow provides us with a better geological understanding of the landscape around. You find here the Canada goose, the Snow goose and the caribou, of which their hunting has been a Cree tradition for generations. The wolf, the black bear, the beaver and the beluga whale, to name a few, can also be found around here.

Excited with the prospect of this five-day adventure in a land unfamiliar to us, we came with the desire to document the place with a female perspective for the Nation. Three women on a mission of discovery. We are greeted at the airport by Elizabeth; wife of David Mastly Sr. who's Chief of the Cree Band of Whapmagoostui. She provides us with a comfortable room and good conversations during our stay - "Meegwetch Elizabeth for opening up your home to us."

This is a place with many names. Kuujuarapik – meaning *the little great river* – is the Inuit community, which borders the bay and has 600 residents who left their nomadic life not even two generation ago. Something particular is here; the Communal Freezer, where men lay the fruits of their hunting and fishing for every member of the community to share. An honorable gesture, a fine tradition kept alive. Whapmagoostui is on the eastern side of the Inuit community but the division is mostly bureaucratic as they are Siamese twins in physicality. The Crees have a community of 600 residents who established themselves







around 1940. A modern building shelters the Band Council. It is the vibrant heartbeat of the community where you can find many resources. A youth center is now under construction and the newly built Police Station is barely a few months old.

The beautiful land surrounding the communities offers a selection of tourism's appeal and the wish to develop the industry is present according to Mariah Kawapit, Economic Development Officer at the Band Council. Many families live in a flexible balance between their traditional culture and modern southern amenities and conveniences. Women feel that they are empowering themselves more and more. The area counts about 40 women who are proud members of the Quebec Native Women Association (QNWA) and were part of the World March of Women 2000. The Police Department has a few women in its ranks; Ruth Masty, who has been a constable for four and a half years, says that she now feels respected by the community while doing her functions. She wants to be a role model to encourage young women to follow their dreams. We saw that women can be found in

almost equal number in offices of the Band Council and in the classrooms of the Badabin Eeyou School. Although the ceaseless problem of alcohol abuse and conjugal violence is present, women now have resources and support, as well as a women's shelter, things their mother and grandmother didn't have in their time.

First night on the town, we are spotted at the *Social Club* playing pool with Audrey and dancing with Elisabeth Masty, who's having a great time celebrating her birthday on this October 12<sup>th</sup>. We are profoundly grateful to our guide Audrey Visitor and her friend Yvonne-Janie Mamianskum. They are terrific women and have become friends to us. They have opened up doors that gave us experiences that will be burned in our memories forever. Like entering into a teepee for the first time. It is impressive and what waits inside is unexpected for us city girls. The sweet fragrance of pine invades your olfactory senses while your visuals are stimulated by the sheer beauty of the shaved wooden poles forming the structure of the shelter intertwined with light canvas thus allowing light to come through it. James Kawapit Sr. a Cree elder, ageless, is generous enough to welcome us into his retreat. His teepee is 25 feet in diameter. An opening at the top of it lets the smoke escape from the fire in the centre below built on a rock structure. The entire floor is made of a cushiony-soft carpet of pine branches where we lay to drink coffee and grill bagels on the open fire. James hands each of us a hawk's feather from where a legend arises and is spoken by him in Cree. We listened attentively as Audrey and Yvonne-Janie translate the tale for us. The feeling is of a sacred space, of softness, of peace. We depart too soon and shake our host's hand with gratitude and respect. Megwetch James.



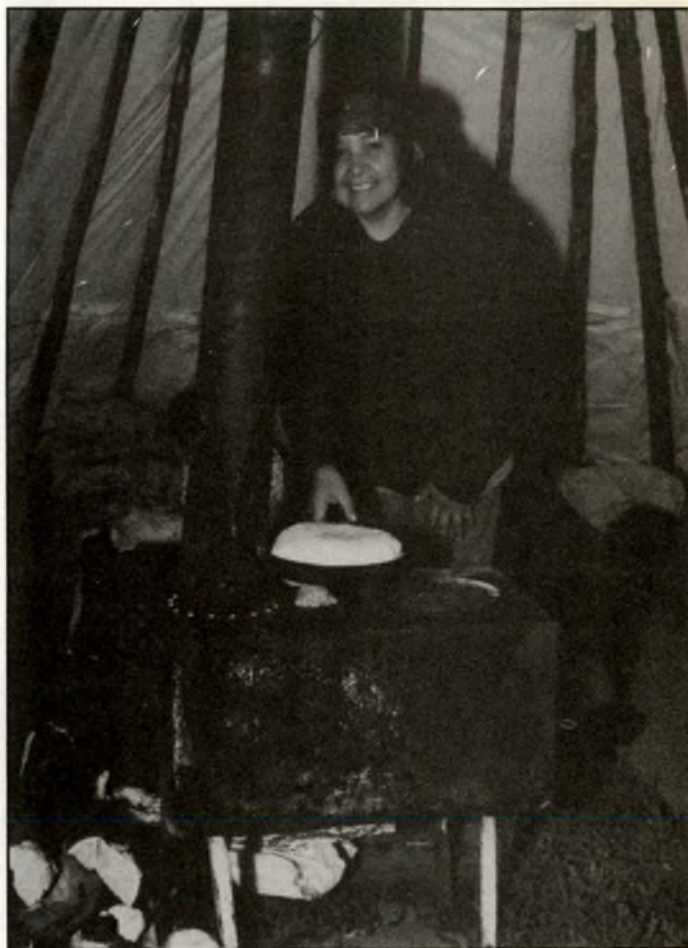




Elizabeth Dick Sr. is cooking bannock on top of a wood stove in a big canvas tent. It is a warm and cozy place, her two grandchildren are lying on a mattress. The family will spend the night out here. Born in the bush from generations of Cree parents, Elizabeth and her husband Robbie manages the Cultural Camp of Whapmagoostui. This is a healing and talking circle open all year round where the elders of the community teach the young all about their rich cultural traditions. People come here on their own terms and learn about what was once primordial to the survival of their people: the making of snowshoes and moccasins, the construction of teepees, of canoes. They come as well to hear the spiritual teachings of the ancestors. The respect for elders and seeking for their teaching is the core of native tradition, something the white culture has put aside but ought to follow. Elizabeth has been working at the Band Council for many years now as a cultural director. She is a spiritual woman and has a great philosophy of life based on the teachings of her father who passed away 12 years ago. She learned about respect from him: Never to judge another soul and to see beyond the body. She learned to see the importance of the spirit: To be colorblind and to put love first. She speaks "...living in a house is like being in a

coffin, it confines your spirit ..." She seems so right, especially in this place. We were born to be outside and this land seems to entice you to go out and play and the games are not scarce at all. This is the destination for many adventures: cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobile or dog sled rides in winter. ATV journeys, mountain biking and trekking in summer and autumn. You find excellent fishing and hunting, river and sea kayaking. It is heaven for any artist or for a photo excursion; the light is simply magical up here.

The scattering of somebody's ashes is a ritual never seen here before and in fact rarely seen for many of us. One of Carmen Longchamps' last wishes is to have her ashes twirling in a dance, to ever float upon this land she loved so much for the last 14 years. Another wish is to have all her native art collection donated to the Inuit Museum. As a nurse she worked mostly with the Inuit elders all over Nunavik. She lost her battle to cancer on August 31<sup>st</sup> 2001 at the age of 59. In the hills overlooking the communities and the water of the Hudson Bay, vestry member Abellie Nowra conducts the touching ceremony where friends and elders speak of Carmen and disperse her spirit over the land. At 2 pm on October 13<sup>th</sup> Suzie Dambroise has the honour to set her dear friend free into the northern wind.





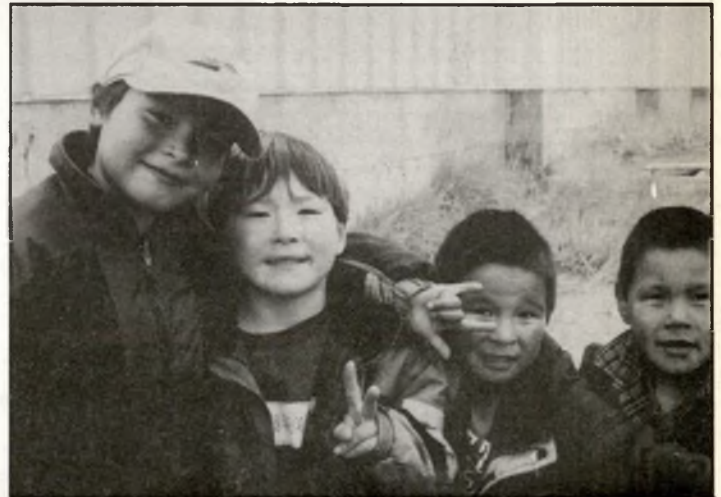


beautiful and so rich that you understand the need to preserve it. You leave this land feeling that something happened to your soul. You are not the same as when you came, feeling more alert and in tune to nature and to yourself as a result. We feel fortunate and grateful to have lived this. Audrey and her gentle friend Yvonne-Janie will be missed. This sojourn is like an ancestral teaching; you receive it in your heart, the guidance is gentle. It lets you understand in your own time that all teachings are inside your soul naturally, that you simply need to stop and listen to the whisper of the wind. I for one will dream of Inukshuk in the distance guiding my path...

Wachiya

Having succeeded a tricky maneuver of balance up the jagged rock, I find myself sweating even in the 4°C weather. This is exhilarating. This is our introduction to riding four-wheel-drive ATVs on this territory called Nunavik. We are on an eight-mile ride up the coast of Hudson Bay. I have to stop often to look and breathe in this magnificent landscape. This land is getting beneath my skin and deep into my heart. Under the wheels of the ATVs, the terrain trades from rocky to sandy beach to dirt trail into the pineland. It leads us to Yvonne-Janie and Norman Mamianskum's camp at the tip of a rocky point overlooking the bay and Manitounuk Islands. A warm wood stove is roaring and traditional food is shared. The women make bannock along with pan-fried Brook and Lake trout with freshly picked blueberries. A pure delight of a meal! As a finale, we fed the stove to thank the spirits for this meal. We have been here two days now and already this place, its people and their traditions mark us profoundly.

Whapmagoostui/Kuujjuarapik is a fascinating place, a land of ATV's and snowmobiles, where the streets are either sand or snow. It is a place where you're guaranteed to encounter authentic, friendly and spiritual people who will meet your eye and acknowledge a hello, who inhabit the land and respect it in ways city folks maybe cannot comprehend in its fullest. It is part of a deep cultural thread. Places where if you listen to the wind you can hear the spirits guide you. Where you can charge up your battery on pure energy from this pristine nature all around you. It is a landscape so





# WILL ON THE GIRL

by Will Nicholls

Even in winter There is fishing. Recently when I went home I had a chance to help out my uncle Luke and Cousin Casey with a little winter fishing. No simple ice holes here. A net was put under the ice and the result was some very tasty walleye and trout. With this in mind I decided to include a few fish recipes for those who definately want more than the supermarket fish.

## Baked Lake Trout

A real favorite. Makes a good shore lunch  
4-5 lb. whole lake trout 2-2.2 kg

DLS\* OR salt and seasoned pepper  
onion slices

1/4 cup dry white wine 60 mL

lemon slices

1. Dress\*\* a whole lake trout (with head and tail removed if you prefer although they add to the aesthetic value if you are going to take it to the table to serve). Place the fish on a large sheet of greased foil.

2. Sprinkle the cavity and the outside of the fish liberally with DLS\* or salt and pepper.

3. Place a row of sliced onions in the cavity and then pour in the dry white wine.

4. Wrap well in greased foil, place on a baking sheet and bake at 400°F (200°C) for 10 minutes per inch (2.5 cm) of thickness (measured at the thickest part of the back). Bake just until the meat at the thickest point flakes easily. *Do not over bake!*

SERVING SUGGESTIONS: Place whole fish on a platter and garnish with lemon slices. To serve, use a knife to remove the skin and then lift the fish off the bones. A 4-5 lb. (2-2.2 kg) fish will serve 6-8. Serve with one of the sauces on the bottom.

\* Dymond Lake Seasoning

\*\* A dressed fish is one that has been gutted and cleaned. What did you think it was?

## Marie's Fish Chowder

A great "quicky" lunch.

1/4 cup butter OR margarine 60 mL

1/2 cup chopped onions 125 mL

1/2 cup chopped celery 125 mL

1/2 cup diced carrots 125 mL

2 cups diced raw potatoes 500 mL

1 tsp. salt 5 mL

1 tbsp. DLS\* 15 mL

1 lb. fish fillets, in bite-sized cubes 450 g

2 cups cream OR evaporated milk 500 mL

1. Melt butter or margarine in heavy saucepan but do not brown. Add the onions and celery and saute until limp. Add the carrots, potatoes, salt, DLS\* and enough boiling water to just barely cover the vegetables. Cover and simmer 10-15 minutes, until tender.

2. Add the cubed fish and cook 5 minutes longer. Add the cream or milk and heat through but do not boil.



Serves 4.

SERVING SUGGESTION: Serve with Bannock and sliced cheese.

\* For Dymond Lake Seasoning substitute steak spice to taste.

## Crispy Fried Fish

vegetable oil for frying

6 fish fillets (cut into approx. 18 pieces)

1/2 cup flour 125 mL

1 tsp. (5 mL) seasoned pepper

1/2 tsp. (2 mL) seasoned salt

1 tsp. garlic powder 5 mL

1/2 tsp. salt 2 mL

1. Heat 1/4" (1 cm) vegetable oil in a heavy frying pan.

2. In a bowl or bag, combine the flour, DLS\*, garlic powder and salt.

3. Dredge the fish pieces in the flour mixture and fry them in the hot oil until crisp and golden brown on both sides, about 2-3 minutes per side.

SERVING SUGGESTIONS: Serve with Mustard Dill Sauce, or use fried fish to make Fish Burgers. Top your burger with Mustard Dill Sauce, tomatoes, raw onions, mozzarella or Cheddar cheese.

Dymond Lake Seasoning

## Provencale Sauce

1/2 cup butter 125 mL

1 tbsp. Provencale\* 15 mL

1. Melt butter and add Provencale. Mix well and serve.

\* Provencale, or Herbs de Provence, is a mixture of herbs and spices. You will find it with the other seasonings in your supermarket, or substitute a mixture of basil, thyme, rosemary, fennel seed, parsley, oregano, sage, summer savory, marjoram, lavender.

## Mustard Dill Sauce

1 cup mayonnaise OR salad dressing 250 mL

1/4 cup prepared mustard 60 mL

1 tsp. dried dillweed 5 mL

1. Mix well and serve.



# WHITE PRIVILEGE PART II

By Robert Jensen

[Note: A version of this essay ran in the Perspective section of the Baltimore Sun on July 4, 1999. It is a follow-up to an essay on the same subject that ran in July 1998.

By writing about the politics of white privilege—and listening to the folks who responded to that writing—I have had to face one more way that privilege runs deep in my life, and it makes me uncomfortable.

The discomfort tells me I might be on the right track.

Last year I published an article about white privilege in the Baltimore Sun that then went out over a wire service to other newspapers. Electronic copies proliferated and were picked up on Internet discussion lists, and the article took on a life of its own.

As a result, every week over the past year I have received at least a dozen letters from people who want to talk about race. I learned not only more about my own privilege, but more about why many white folks can't come to terms with the truism I offered in that article: White people, whether overtly racist or not, benefit from living in a world mostly run by white people that has been built on the land and the backs of non-white people.

The reactions varied from racist rantings, to deeply felt expressions of pain and anger, to declarations of solidarity. But

probably the most important response I got was from non-white folks, predominantly African-Americans, who said something like this: "Of course there is white privilege. I've been pointing it out to my white friends and co-workers for years. Isn't funny that almost no one listens to me, but everyone takes notice when a white guy says it."

Those comments forced me again to ponder the privilege I live with. Who really does know more about white privilege, me or the people on the other side of that privilege? Me, or a black inner-city teenager who is automatically labeled a gang member and feared by many white folks? Me, or an American Indian on the streets of a U.S. city who is invisible to many white folks? Whose voices should we be paying attention to?

My voice gets heard in large part because I am a white man with a Ph.D. who holds a professional job with status. In most settings, I speak with the assumption that people not only will listen, but will take me seriously. I speak with the assumption that my motives will not be challenged; I can

rely on the perception of me as a neutral authority, someone whose observations can be trusted.

Every time I open my mouth, I draw on, and in some ways reinforce, my privilege, which is in large part tied to race.

Right now, I want to use that privilege to acknowledge the many non-white people who took the time to tell me about the enduring realities of racism in the United States. And, I want to talk to the white people who I think misread my essay and misunderstand what's at stake.

The responses of my white critics broke down into a few basic categories, around the following claims:

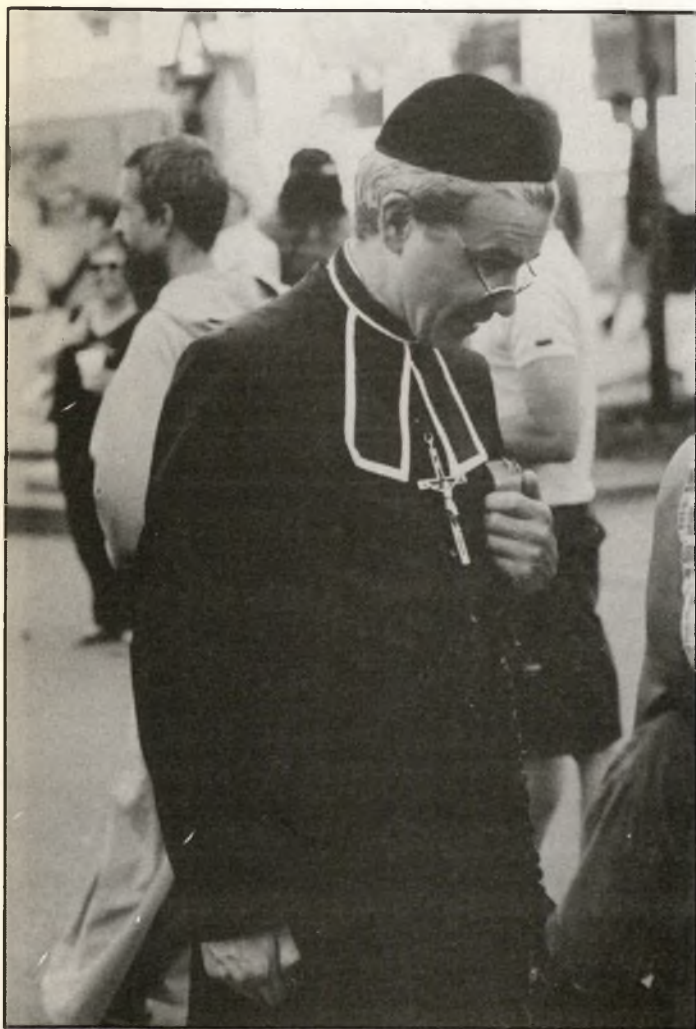
1. White privilege doesn't exist because affirmative action has made being white a disadvantage. The simple response: Extremely limited attempts to combat racism, such as affirmative action, do virtually nothing to erase the white privilege built over 500 years that pervades our society. As a friend of mine says, the only real disadvantage to being white is that it so often prevents people from understanding racial issues.

2. White privilege exists, but it can't be changed because it is natural for any group to favor its own, and besides, the worst manifestations of racism are over. Response: This approach makes human choices appear outside of human control, which is a dodge to avoid moral and political responsibility for the injustice we continue to live with.

3. White privilege exists, and that's generally been a good thing because white Europeans have civilized the world. Along the way some bad things may have happened, and we should take care to be nice to non-whites to make up for that. Response: These folks often argued the curiously contradictory position that (1) non-whites and their cultures are not inferior, but (2) white/European culture is superior. As for the civilizing effect of Europe, we might consider five centuries of inhuman, brutal colonialism and World Wars I and II, and then ask what "civilized" means.

4. White privilege exists because whites are inherently superior, and I am a weakling and a traitor for suggesting otherwise. Response: The Klan isn't dead.

There is much to say beyond those short responses, but for





now I am more interested in one common assumption that all these correspondents made, that my comments on race and affirmative action were motivated by "white liberal guilt." The problem is, they got two out of the three terms wrong.

I am white, but I'm not a liberal. In political terms, I'm a radical; I don't think liberalism offers real solutions because it doesn't attack the systems of power and structures of illegitimate authority that are the root cause of oppression, be it based on race, gender, sexuality, or class.

These systems of oppression, which are enmeshed and interlocking, require radical solutions.

And I don't feel guilty. Guilt is appropriate when one has wronged another, when one has something to feel guilty about. In my life I have felt guilty for racist or sexist things I have said or done, even when they were done unconsciously. But that is guilt I felt because of specific acts, not for the color of my skin. Also, focusing on individual guilt feelings is counterproductive when it leads us to ponder the issue from a psychological point of view instead of a moral and political one.

So, I cannot, and indeed should not, feel either guilty or proud about being white, because it is a state of being I have no control over. However, as a member of a society—and especially as a privileged member of society—I have an obligation not simply to enjoy that privilege that comes with being white but to study and understand it, and work toward a more just world in which such unearned privilege is eliminated.

Some of my critics said that such a goal is ridiculous; after all, people have unearned privileges of all kinds. Several people pointed out that, for example, tall people have unearned privilege in basketball, and we don't ask tall people to stop playing basketball nor do we eliminate their advantage.

The obvious difference is that racial categories are invented; they carry privilege or disadvantage only because people with power create and maintain the privilege for themselves at the expense of others. The privilege is rooted in violence and is maintained through that violence as well as more subtle means.

I can't change the world so that everyone is the same height, so that everyone has the same shot at being a pro basketball player. In fact, I wouldn't want to; it would be a drab and boring world if we could erase individual differences like that. But I can work with others to change the world to erase the effects of differences that have been created by one group to keep others down.

Not everyone who wrote to me understood this. In fact, the most creative piece of mail I received in response to the essay also was the most confused. In a padded envelope from Clement, Minn., came a brand-new can of Kiwi Shoe Polish, black. Because there was no note or letter, I have to guess at my correspondent's message, but I assume the person was suggesting that if I felt so



bad about being white, I might want to make myself black.

But, of course, I don't feel bad about being white. The only motivation I might have to want to be black—to be something I am not—would be pathological guilt over my privilege. In these matters, guilt is a coward's way out, an attempt to avoid the moral and political questions. As I made clear in the original essay, there is no way to give up the privilege; the society we live in confers it upon us, no matter what we want.

So, I don't feel guilty about being white in a white supremacist society, but I feel an especially strong moral obligation to engage in collective political activity to try to change the society because I benefit from the injustice. I try to be reflective and accountable, though I am human and I make mistakes. I think a lot about how I may be expressing racism unconsciously, but I don't lay awake at night feeling guilty. Guilt is not a particularly productive emotion, and I don't wallow in it.

What matters is what we decide to do with the privilege. For me, that means speaking, knowing that I speak with a certain unearned privilege that gives me advantages I cannot justify. It also means learning to listen before I speak, and realizing that I am probably not as smart as I sometimes like to think I am.

It means listening when an elderly black man who sees the original article tacked up on the bulletin board outside my office while on a campus tour stops to chat. This man, who has lived with more kinds of racism than I can imagine through more decades than I have been alive, says to me, "White privilege, yes, good to keep an eye on that, son. Keep yourself honest. But don't forget to pay attention to the folks who live without the privilege."

It doesn't take black shoe polish to pay attention. It takes only a bit of empathy to listen, and a bit of courage to act.

To contact Robert Jensen write to:

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University of Texas, Austin, TX  
78712



# *A Gold for First Nations at the Olympics*

**Xavier Kataquapit**

I watched the opening ceremonies of the 11th Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah this past week and like everyone I was amazed at the music and theatrical show that took place. The Olympics is a major world event that is very popular in the remote First Nation northern communities in Canada.

From the time I was a boy growing up in Attawapiskat, I've been fascinated by the Olympics. Everyone in my community enjoys the cold season the most so naturally the main Olympic features that my friends and I enjoyed watching were the ones that took place during the winter.

As a boy I enjoyed the fact that many countries from around the world came together to play at these games. My favourite part was the opening ceremonies and watching the parade of nations. I enjoyed hearing about other nations and learning about the different flags they used. During the days of the Olympics my friends and I mimicked the different sports events and created our own competitions on the banks of the river where we did our sliding. Each of us represented our own nation of the world and we competed for the longest jump, the longest distance or who could be the fastest on the hill. Not all of us were lucky enough to have our own toboggans, so we used cardboard, old plastic siding, plywood or just lay on our backs and used our own parkas to hurtle down the steep bank of the river.

We organized the event, kept score and decided amongst ourselves who would have the gold, silver and bronze medal prizes at the end of each event. At home we watched the real Olympic games and as best as we could we kept track of the medals that each of the major countries such as Canada, the United States and the former USSR were winning.

I still enjoy watching the Olympics and the opening ceremonies thrill me. This year was special for me and for every Native person in North America as it was one



of the first Olympic ceremonies where Native people played a major role. It was a special surprise for me to watch as the five First Nations of Utah came together to take part in the event. I have seen many pow wows over the years and have always been amazed at the number of dancers and performers that regularly attend these traditional gatherings. The opening ceremonies for the Winter Olympics this year featured the greatest number of Native performers and dancers that I have ever seen in one place. It was the granddaddy pow wow of them all. It felt great to see my people sing traditional songs and perform ancient Native dances. I could see the smiles of pride on the participants as they floated in the midst of thousands of spectators at the arena and through television in homes all across the world.

It was fantastic to see Robbie Robertson, a Native Canadian, take the stage and sing for the audience. He provided great performances with Sadie Buck and other Native singers. Both of these First Nation artists are from the Six Nations area, near Hamilton. Goosebumps covered my skin as I listened to Robbie sing "This Is Indian Land" and I know that young Aboriginal people from all over North America and the world felt a wonderful feeling of pride with the performance. Many of my people feel like second-class citizens living in a world we do not understand but for a few amazing minutes we were brought back down to earth with the sight and sounds of our people. Perhaps as the world seems to become more and more dangerous and confusing we will find a place to stand and to grow in a way that can heal the sickness of violence we have developed.





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# the Dogs Ear

Reviewed by Will Nicholls

## The Courage to Change A Teen Survival Guide

By the Leave Out Violence Youth  
Published by Second Story Press

*Courage to Change* is a collection of personal stories by teens who have experienced violence from both sides: They have been both victims and victimizers. It is a book that talks about bullying, neglect, self-image, domestic violence and sexual abuse. Some of the stories explain how this leads to drug abuse and criminal behaviour.

In short, a book that deals with problems that a lot of First Nations people are having to come to grips with. The influence of residential schools, attempts at assimilation, lack of employment opportunities and mass media have shaped generations of Natives to become what they are today. The problems run through all of society as this book shows.

The book is one where teens reach out to other teens in raw and powerful ways. To be blunt, the stories aren't bulsh\*t. They are true and gritty, sad and

## THE COURAGE TO CHANGE A Teen Survival Guide



### by the Leave Out Violence Youth

A leave out youth who've seen and done it all talk about  
changing themselves, their community and the world.



funny and tell what life is really like for teens in their own words. Parents should be forced to read this to see what their kids could be like and kids should read the book to know they aren't alone in the way they think.

It's a book I recommend for schools, social services, Youth Protection and clinics. Wherever there is a chance that it will give someone a *Courage to Change*, youth and adults alike. Get a copy today by calling 416-537-7850 and good luck.

## Fish, Law and Colonialism The Legal Capture of Salmon in British Columbia

By Douglas C. Harris  
Published by University of Toronto Press

Are you tired of hearing about the deal between Quebec and the Cree but still

## THE DOGS EAR

interested in First Nations rights? Then this is the book for you. I'm really impressed with the University of Toronto Press. They have come out with some interesting ways of imparting history and the law in this book. You can see clearly how the governments work. I'm not talking just the Federal Government or Indian Affairs here but the whole tamale. You get a look into the provincial government, the First Nations governments and the various lobby groups. It shows you how First Nations could lose control of a vital resource despite all their efforts. The book takes you on a travel tour from the 1800's to the situation today. In 1872 the Minister of Public Works for British Columbia said, "There is no law governing fishing in British Columbia. Fishing is carried on throughout the year without any restrictions. This state of things is well suited to a new and thinly populated country. The restrictions of a closed season would be very injurious to the Province at the present, and for many years to come."

By 1913 Comiak Chief Kukaht said that they were no longer allowed to fish and sell their catch to the local food market. "At all times of the year we are in trouble and they do not let us fish at all. The constables are always watching us, no matter when we fish, or what we fish with."

Looking at the restrictions today you can see the situation has indeed changed. Now you can see how and why it happened. The book holds out hope telling how the First Nations in B.C. are reasserting their rights and challenging the stated for control. All in all, it's a truly fascinating and educational read.

## Top 10 Fiction Bestsellers

**1-THE DIARY OF ELLEN RIMBAUER**, edited by Joyce Reardon. (Hyperion, \$22.95.) The fictional journal of the wife of a Seattle industrialist; a companion volume to the mini-series "Stephen King's Rose Red."

**2-UP COUNTRY**, by Nelson DeMille. (Warner, \$26.95.) A Vietnam veteran investigates the mysterious death of an Army lieutenant three decades earlier.

**3-ONE DOOR AWAY FROM HEAVEN**, by Dean Koontz. (Bantam, \$26.95.) A woman tries to protect a 9-year-old girl from her stepfather, who is convinced that her destiny will involve U.F.O.'s and aliens.

**4-JOURNEY THROUGH**

**HEARTSONGS**, written and illustrated by Mattie J. T. Stepanek. (VSP Books, \$14.95.) A collection of poems by an 11-year-old boy.

**5-UNDER FIRE**, by W. E. B. Griffin. (Putnam, \$26.95.) United States marines encounter new battlefields when the Korean War begins; the ninth volume of the series "The Corps."

**6-BASKET CASE**, by Carl Hiaasen. (Knopf, \$25.95.) An obituary writer in South Florida examines the strange circumstances surrounding the death of a rock star.

**7-THE CORRECTIONS**, by Jonathan Franzen. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$26.)

A multigenerational saga in which a mother tries to bring her dysfunctional family together for a final Christmas at home.

**8-THE MILLIONAIRES**, by Brad Meltzer. (Warner, \$25.95.) Things go awry when two brothers who work at an exclusive bank try to pull off a foolproof crime.

**9-TISHOMINGO BLUES**, by Elmore Leonard. (Morrow, \$25.95.) In Tunica, Miss., a high diver runs afoul of the Dixie Mafia and its Civil War re-enactors.

**10- THE CAT WHO WENT UP THE CREEK**, by Lilian Jackson Braun. (Putnam, \$23.95.) While on vacation, Jim Qwilleran and his two cats investigate a murder.



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# CLASSIFIEDS

## 100 - BIRTHS

**Congratulations to my brother Titus** Metabie and his girlfriend Sarah Spencer on the birth of their baby boy, Linell ray spencer metabie born on January 25, 2002 at 3:31 pm, Weighing, 9 lbs 14 ounces. Take good care of your little baby boy. From: Olivia, Jerry and Reshawn

**I would like to congratulate my** friend Jordana McLeod (from Wask) on the birth of her baby girl Jerraly Jennie born on Jan 13th 2002 in Val D'Or, weighing in at 7lbs. 11oz. Take care of your little girl. From: friend always Bella especially from Marcus (Wask).

**Congratulations to my best friend** Theresa Bosum and her boyfriend Claude Coon on the birth of their precious baby girl Tarianne Saajewabins Niisha-Chanan Bosum Coon born on February 5th 2002 at 2:11 in Chibougamau. Weighing 9 lbs. and 1 oz. The way I feel for the both of you right now is indescribable. I'm so happy for you! Congratulations! With love in friendship, Naomi Bosum

## 101 - BIRTHDAYS

**Happy Birthday Tyra Shem** on the 18th of February. Yeah, it is from your friend and auntie Mary. I hope this year brings you love, good health, peace and prosperity. I miss you my sweet child and I love you very much. You have brought me great joy and a lot of things to look forward to. You have opened my eyes to life and what it has to offer...grand love, happiness and a peace of mind. Take Care of yourself and I will talk to you later...

**Happy Birthday to my Cuz Desiree** Blacksmith who will be celebrating her eighteenth birthday on February 14th...Valentines Day!. Hey girl! I hope you had a great party and not to mention a few quiet drinks with the man? lol ;/k. It feel like it was just yesterday when we were fighting over who gets to wear the high heel shoes or should I say "click click shoes" lol!. We had some great times when we were kids and some really bad times too but we got through them and I know we'll keep on staying close as we do today. You will never know how much you mean to me as a friend, cousin and I consider you a sister...that's a week older than me lol!. Well Happy Birthday and Happy Valentines day!. Luv always your cuz Katrina Orr

**Hey there "PETE"!** I would like to wish you a very happy birthday on the 13th of February. I hope this year brings you peace within, good health and everything U deserve. I love you my friend and like always you are still in my heart. I hope this

**Valentine's Day finds me** in your thoughts...as I know you will be in mine. Take good care of yourself and

all the best for this year! ...Have you seen 'the postman' lately? ;>) Let only good spirits guide you and lead you to where you would like to be...Fidelio!



**I would like to wish a Happy Belated** Birthday to my brother Brandon Mamianskum (whap) On Feb 3, 02, hope you had a great time on ur birthday and I sure hope you got what you wanted for your birthday. I can't believe ur 16 yrs old...where have the years have gone? I love you so much and I miss you a lot!! Love Always ur sisiter Andrea (Eastmain) xox

**We want to wish a Happy Belated** Birthday to Emily Blackned, Dec 3rd 2001 in Waskaganish, Christina Rupert, Dec 19th 2001, Kristina Sam, Dec 26th 2001, Ray Sam, January 10th 2002, Joe Rupert, January 29th 2002. We wish you all Happy Birthdays and the best in Life and may you enjoy many more Birthdays. From Josephine and John Sam (Chisasibi).

**Happy Birthday to these following** people: Claudine Matoush on Feb 1st 2002, Nancy Rupert on Feb 6th 2002, Norman-James Rupert on Feb 6th 2002, Sarah Rupert on Feb 18th 2002, Donna Sam on Feb 24th 2002. Best wishes to all and many more to come. From Josephine and John Sam (Chisasibi).

**We wanna wish a Happy 7th** Birthday to our nephews Darryl and Davey Sam on Feb 10th 2002. This Special day bring you lots of happiness. May your wishes all come true and the best in Life and may you enjoy many more Birthdays. We love you Darryl and Davey. From Josephine and John Sam.

**I would like to take this time to** wish my Mom (Winnie Bosum) a Happy Birthday on Feb 3rd. Mom I would like to thank you for all the 20

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years of my life, for the things that you and Dad had shown and taught us, you're the best Mom of this universe. Also to my uncle, chief Sam R. Bosum on Feb 5th Sorry for the delay. Joshua Bosum in OJ.

**Birthday wishes going out to my** beautiful niece Faith Moses. She will be celebrating her 5th Birthday on Feb 15th 2002. I love you so much and I hope that you will have a great time on your birthday. Love always, Betty Tomatuk XOX

**We would like to wish a Happy 5th** Birthday to our wonderful granddaughter Faith Gertina Moses on Feb 15th 2002. We love you much much much. Big Hug from Grandpa & Grandma Tomatuk.

**Someone really special will be** celebrating her 5th Birthday on Feb 15th 2002 and that special person is my niece Faith Moses. You're growing taller and taller everyday. Love always, your uncle Monroe.

**I would like to wish my little** adorable and handsome godson Lyle Metabie a Happy 1st Birthday on

January 25th 2002. May your Birthday be a special day you will remember all year long. May you celebrate more birthdays!!! PS: Luv you XOXOXO With lots of love, Stephanie.

**We would like to wish Frances M. a** Happy Belated Birthday on January 20th 2002. Hope your birthday was as special as you are and many more to come. With lots of love, Mom and sister Stephanie (Mist).

**We would like to wish a Happy 8th** Birthday to Cheslaine Saganash on Jan 31st 2002. Happy Birthday. From all of us at 67 Pine St. Waswanipi.

**We would like to wish a Happy 12th** Birthday to Angela Scipio on January 24th 2002. I hope you enjoy your Birthday. Friends - you know us. XOXO

**Happy 1st Birthday to my cousins** "Shania Jolly" on Feb 18th, and "Rachel Cheezo" on Feb 22nd. Wishin you girls lots of fun on your special day... minimm birthday cake! Love, Kyle (caillou).

**Bonne Fete a mon grand-pere** Isaiah oops! I forgot he can't read French.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

Happy Birthday Joomshoom Isaiah on February 24th. and to my Great Grandpa David Blueboy (in Wask.) on Feb 12th. Hugs & Kisses to you both! From Kyle (Nemaska).

**I would like to wish my brother a Happy Birthday** on February 18, 2002. His name is Lee-Roy Mattawashish, so Lee-roy how old are you now 30??? eh just kidding... well i just wanted to say Happy Birthday!! P.S. Good luck with the upcoming baby with your girlfriend Priscilla

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## 300 - PERSONALS

**Hey Cynthia!! It's me.** The one that often wonders how your day went!! The one that is curious about what new word your little one has learned, what new moves your older daughter has danced and for your son...well I wondered if he has come up with a new puppy face!! Although I may be far, I am near in thoughts. Luv yas kiss yas and miss yas From that one that lives in hull with her son (winks). Will see you soon!! Oh and have a nice day!!

**Still wanted - Good woman,** able to cook stew, clean fish, and knit blankets. Oh, and by the way I have a boat and motor already. From someone in Mistissini. Thank you.

**I would like to congratulate my friends** Mary G., Christine J., Hattie B., Jennifer T., Nellie B., and Elizabeth B. who will be working as educators for the Day Care. Once again Congratulations and Good Luck in everything you do. I know you can do it!!! Love in frienship. Stephanie.

**Kevin, I just want you to know I** miss you so much, when are you coming back to us? I hope you come back really soon. Love always, Jolene and Daisy Ann XXX

**I wanna say Hello! to my 2 boys** Joshua and George Ottereyes. How are you doing? Hope you're doing OK (smile). As for me, it's not so great cause I don't get to see you everyday, but you're always on my mind and in my thoughts. I always think about you 2 and I really really miss you alot. I want to put my arms around you and to tell you both how much I love you. I always keep you in a special place, and you know where? In my heart (smile). This is where I'll sign off until next time. Please be good boys. Listen to your dad and your teacher ok (smile). Take very good care of yourself. Let yourself know that I really love you and miss you alot. With love and prayers, Moin

Nanette Iserhoff XOXOXO Please keep this in a safe place. Luv ya!

**To our two beautiful angels,** Selena and Serena Gull. We wanna let the whole world know just how much we love you both, you're the most beautiful angels God had given us. You are both so precious to us. We love you. Happy Valentines Day! Love: Mommy (Mel) and Daddy (Sinclair Jr.) XOXOXO

**To the love of my life,** my best friend for life, my husband, Sinclair Neeposh Jr. This is the best time to tell you how much you mean to me, but the most best time to tell you how much I love you is everyday. I am truly blessed to have you in my life as my lover, my best friend and as my husband. You've shown me how beautiful love can be and do, and ever since you came into my life all my dreams came true, just because I have you in my life. You're the reason I'm still here and you're the one who taught me how to love, and you've showed me just what love can do. And I want you to know just how much I appreciate you and how much I cherish your love everyday I live. I will always love you, til the last breath that's in me. I love you! Love always and forever more! Your wife Melanie Gull XOXOXI (Wasw.) And also: Happy Valentine's Day Daddy! We love you with all our little hearts. Love: Selena and Serena XOX

**I would like to wish a Happy Valentine's day** to someone who's soo fine!! That's you Mista David Loon. Um Um Um.....D\*~n! You're off the HOOOOK!!!! I wish you were mine. Baby be my Valentine!! From your secret admirer x0x. Take a wild guess.....

**Happy Valentines to our loving family** back home. Roger, Nigel and our very missed cute Pets Chucky & Milou Orr. We miss you all very much and we hope that you guys are all getting along! >From your family in Hull Linda, Katrina, Catherine, Bugger & Ozzy Orr.

**Happy 1st Birthday** to our son Derian mistacheesick on January 22 2002. The day you were born was the happiest day of our lives, you brought so much love, joy happiness and laughter. Hope this day will be special as you are. Have fun. We love you with all our hearts. Once again, Happy 1st Birthday and many more to come. Love always, mommy and daddy (Edith and Paul) Chisasibi

**I would like to wish my wonderful daughter Kaitlynn a Happy Belated Birthday** on January 4th 2002. Since the day that you were born I always knew you would always be very special to me and you're still are today.

You're turning into a beautiful young lady. I sure did a great job of raising you. For 9 months I carried you. I gave birth to you, feed you, held you, raised you and I taught you right from wrong. I gave you my unconditional love and you showed me your love and respect. We had some tough times together and somehow we pulled through. I love you and you will always be in my heart. PS: Sorry I couldn't be there to celebrate with you but I promise when I come home from the hospital we'll have lots of fun. Happy Birthday Princess. Love always, Mom Cheryl.

**I would like to wish a Happy Belated Birthday** to my big sister Kaitlynn on January 4th. Sis, I know I get in trouble when I make a big mess in your room or when I write on your walls, but hey let me make it up to you. I'll clean your room and take out all my Barney tapes too, but I'd like to watch Barney with you cause you teach me to sing and we do the actions together. I love you big sis even though you make me cry sometimes. Don't forget to gave me a piece of your cake. Happy Birthday. Love, Leon.

**I am 4 months old** and I have someone to wish a Happy Belated Birthday to my big sister Kaitlynn. I'll make one promise to you that I won't make a big mess in your room when I get older like Leon does. I promise you that I will be a good little brother to you. I know I can't have a piece of your cake yet but when I get older I promise you that we will have lots lots of fun. We'll make mom and dad clean up the mess too. Hope you had fun on your special day! Happy 7th Birthday. With love, little bro Dawson Clark.

**We Kaitlynn & Dawson** would like to wish a Happy 2nd Birthday to our funny, crazy, adorable brother Leon Titus Lee on January 30th. May your big day bring you lots of happiness and joy. Have fun as you blow out your 2nd candle and don't forget to wish for something before you blow out your candles. May God bless you with many more. Happy Birthday Leon and I'm sure we'll have lots lots of fun on your special day. Love always, your sister Kaitlynn & little bro Dawson.

**I would like to say Happy Birthday** to a friend of mine; Erica Cheezo on Feb 11th 2002. Hey girl I hope you will like your Birthday this year. We'll have a great day and many more to come. Sorry I won't be there to share your birthday with you. I miss you alot and can't wait to see you. From friend always Patricia Saganash. PS: Don't party too much (LOL) joke. Take care of yourself!

**I would like to wish a Happy 17th**

**Birthday to my son Shawn Tomatuk** (Thumbtack) on February 5th. My birthday wish for you is that you always have people to laugh with and be close to, things to dream about and work hard for, and may you always know how much I love you. Stay in school. Happy 17th Birthday. With love, Moin.

**A special Birthday greeting** going out to a brother and uncle Larry Tomatuk (Wildcat) on January 27th. We would like to wish you happiness and enjoy your day. PS: How many more days??? With love, Dorothy, Shawn & Trisha.

**Happy belated Birthday** to our one and only Mr. Bill Blackned on Jan 7th. So how old are you now. And Happy Valentine's Day. We're sorry we can't be with you on these two special days. Take care of yourself ok. We love & miss you alot. From Debra Wesley & your two daughters Summer and Skylar. By the way Skylar is growing up so fast.

**To my better half,** I know its hard to make end meet when our little rugrats keep us on the go especially Caillou. I sometimes take you for granted and I don't come to appreciate you and what you do for our two blessed sons. I just want to take this time to tell you that I do see the best of you in our boys. I know that our marriage hasn't been perfect, who hasn't, but your are everything and especially to the boys. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else in the world without you guys. I just want to wish you the best on your birthday on February 13th and that one day we will look back and cherished all the memories that husband and wife and family share and most of all an eternity of love. With all my love, Angela.

**I would like to say happy belated birthday** to Tia Matoush on January 19, 2002 from Wemindji, And to Dana Mathias & Zachary Mathias on January 20, 2002 from Waswanipi. I hope you guy's had lost of fun on your birthday and many more to come wishing you all the best on your birthdays. Hey i am really sorry i couldn't be there on your birthday you guy's. At least i send this to you, to see it how much you meant to me on your birthday's "I LOVE YOU ALL" . love u oh and many more to come.....xox-oxo From: your aunt smatoush & Eshashaweskum (Wemindji)

**I WOULD LIKE TO WISH A HAPPY 1ST BIRTHDAY TO MY PRECIOUS GRANDSON DERIAN MISTACHEESICK ON JANUARY 22, 2001. MAY YOUR DAY BE AS SPECIAL AS YOU ARE. LOVE ALWAYS FROM GRANDMA GRACIE IN TIMMINS PS I WISH I COULD BE THERE ON YOUR SPECIAL DAY**



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